<u>DUAL FUNCTIONING EXCIPIENT FOR METAL</u> <u>CHELATE CONTRAST AGENTS</u>

Abstract

A novel dual functioning excipient for metal chelate contrast agents is disclosed. The present excipient,

$$X_{m}[X'(L')]_{n}$$

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which is the calcium or zinc salt of the calcium or zinc complex of an organic ligand, enhances safety in that it is able to scavenge both free metal ions and free organic ligand.

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